



Propane Watch

March 1, 2000

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

- U.S. inventories of propane reported an unexpectedly sharp drop last week, falling by 1.2 million barrels (MMB) to an estimated 21.4 MMB as of week ending February 25, 2000. Regional inventories continued mixed last week with East Coast inventories and Midwest falling by about 0.1 MMB and 1.1 MMB, respectively, while inventories in the Gulf Coast remained unchanged during this same period. U.S. and regional inventories remained below their respective normal ranges for this time of year, except in the Gulf Coast where inventories continued to move within the normal range.
- The propane price at the national level exhibited little flux as of the February 21, 2000 report period. The average residential price was up 0.9 cent to 123.1 cents per gallon from its previous mark of 122.2 cents on February 14, whereas the overall wholesale price dropped slightly, moving from 67.0 to 66.1 cents per gallon, a 0.9 cent decrease for the week. Compared with the same period last year, the residential price was up 34.1 cents from 89.0 cents per gallon, while the wholesale price increased by 39.2 cents from its year-ago level of 26.9 cents per gallon.

Propane Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I, II, and III (Thousand Barrels)

Districts	January 1999	February 1999	Week Ending				
			02/04/00	02/11/00	02/18/00	02/25/00	02/26/99
East Coast (PADD I)	2,889	3,075	^E 2,824	^E 1,903	^E 1,960	^E 1,871	3,064
Midwest (PADD II)	19,460	16,318	^E 9,556	^E 8,179	^E 7,504	^E 6,452	16,613
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	23,103	22,239	^E 12,570	^E 12,434	^E 12,326	^E 12,327	20,434
Total (PADD I-III)	45,452	41,632	^E 24,950	^E 22,516	^E 21,790	^E 20,650	40,111
U.S. Total	47,535	43,331	^E 25,872	^E 23,348	^E 22,595	^E 21,414	41,596

E=Estimated data.

Source: Energy Information Administration (EIA), Monthly Petroleum Supply Reporting System and Form EIA-807, "Propane Telephone Survey."

Propane Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts (PADD) I and II (Cents per Gallon)

District	Wholesale					Residential				
	01/31/00	02/07/00	02/14/00	02/21/00	02/15/99	01/31/00	02/07/00	02/14/00	02/21/00	02/15/99
East Coast (PADD I)	82.2	81.4	83.5	80.9	31.6	138.6	142.9	^R 144.4	144.7	107.4
New England (PADD IX)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	139.3	144.7	145.5	146.3	111.9
Central Atlantic (PADD IY)	82.9	80.5	82.0	80.8	32.0	139.9	143.4	145.1	145.7	109.1
Lower Atlantic (PADD IZ)	81.3	82.4	85.3	81.1	31.1	135.0	140.0	^R 141.8	141.0	99.1
Midwest (PADD II)	60.0	61.6	61.3	60.9	25.4	99.9	102.9	105.4	106.9	75.2
Average	65.7	66.7	67.0	66.1	26.9	116.5	120.0	122.2	123.1	89.0

NA=Not Available.

R=Revised.

Source: Wholesale propane prices are based on Oil Price Information Service. Residential propane prices are available from data supplied by 23 State Energy Offices from October through March on a semi-monthly basis.

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